

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LENDING 01540 180636Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 HA-05 SCS-06 PPT-01 CA-01

CU-04 /033 W

-----031014 180650Z /11

P 180607Z NOV 77

FM AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3688

USIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LENINGRAD 1540

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN, SCUL, SHUM, CSCE, US, UR, CUIS, CPAS, CASC, EXEC

(LEVIN-STANKEVICH, DEBORAH SUE)

SUBJ: LEVIN-STANKEVICH PROTEST

1. MFA ASSERTION REFTEL THAT MRS. LEVIN-STANKEVICH'S BORDER CROSSING NIGHT OF OCTOBER 2-3 WOULD HAVE GONE SMOOTHLY BUT FOR FAILURE TO PRODUCE VISA "STUB" EITHER REFLECTS APPARENT FAILURE TO CONDUCT PROPER INQUIRY INTO CASE OR ELSE IS BALD-FACED LIE. ALL IREX LONG-TERM GRANTEES HERE ENTER USSR WITH ENTRY VISA ONLY. THIS IS SURRENDERED AT BORDER. THEY SUBSEQUENTLY GIVE THEIR PASSPORTS TO UNIVERSITY FOR REGISTRATION AT OVIR, AND GET THEM BACK WITH A REGISTRY STAMP ON ONE OF THE PASSPORT PAGES. THEY ARE LEFT WITH NO SEPARATE STUB OF ANY KIND.

2. FURTHERMORE, MRS. LEVIN-STANKEVICH DENIES THAT BORDER GUARDS EVER ASKED FOR SUCH STUB OR THAT SHE TOLD THEM SHE HAD LEFT ANYTHING AT ALL BEHIND WITH HUSBAND IN LENINGRAD. PROVIDING MORE DETAILED ACCOUNT OF SCENE AT VYBORG THAT NIGHT, SHE REPORTS BORDER GUARDS SIMPLY ASKED FOR "EXIT VISA." AS SHE DOES NOT SPEAK RUSSIAN AND BORDER GUARDS DID NOT SPEAK ENGLISH, CUSTOMS WAS PRESSED INTO SERVICE AS INTERPRETER. MS. LEVIN-

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STANKEVICH EXPLAINED, THROUGH CUSTOMS MAN, THAT SHE DID NOT HAVE WRITTEN EXIT VISA SINCE NEED TO LEAVE HAD SUDDENLY ARISEN SATURDAY AND IT HAD PROVEN IMPOSSIBLE TO GET VISA SATURDAY NIGHT OR SUNDAY. SHE FURTHER EXPLAINED THAT UNDERSTANDING HAD BEEN REACHED WITH MFA WHEREBY BORDER AUTHORITIES WERE TO HAVE BEEN ALERTED AND WOULD LET HER PASS. SHE VOLUNTEERED WRITTEN LIST OF TELEPHONE NUMBERS (INCLUDING MFA CONSULAR

DIVISION DUTY NUMBER IN MOSCOW) PREPARED FOR JUST SUCH AN INSTANCE BY CONOFF IN LENINGRAD PRIOR TO DEPARTURE. BORDER GUARDS, ACCORDING MRS. LEVIN-STANKEVICH, WOULD NOT TAKE PROFERRED TELEPHONE LIST, BUT GOT OFF TRAIN FOR FEW MINUTES, PRESUMABLY TO MAKE INQUIRIES. WHEN THEY GOT BACK ON, THEY AGAIN ASKED FOR EXIT VISA AND SHE REPEATED EXPLANATION. BORDER GUARDS AGAIN LEFT TRAIN. WHEN THEY RETURNED TO MRS. LEVIN-STANKEVICH THIRD TIME THEY TOLD HER SHE HAD TO GET OFF. AT THIS POINT SHE TRIED TO MAKE THEM READ LETTER, ALSO PREPARED FOR SUCH EMERGENCY, FROM CONOFF REQUESTING ASSISTANCE TO "AMERICAN IN DISTRESS." BORDER GUARDS REFUSED TO LOOK AT LETTER AND PUT HER OFF TRAIN IN TEARS.

3. RECOMMEND MFA REPLY BE REJECTED AND THAT THIS INCIDENT BE UTILIZED TO MAXIMUM EXTENT POSSIBLE TO ELICIT APPROVAL FOR BLANKET GRANTING OF EXIT VISAS TO ALL AMERICAN EXCHANGE SCHOLARS AND DEPENDENTS HERE. FURTHER URGE THAT REPLY TO MFA REITERATE DEMAND FOR REFUND TO LEVIN-STANKEVICHES OF COST OF LENINGRAD-HELSINKI TRAIN TICKET, FOR WHICH THEY STILL OUT OF POCKET.
BUCHANAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRAVEL CONTROLS, VISAS, BORDER CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 18-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LENING01540
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770427-0832
Format: TEL
From: LENINGRAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771143/aaaabkco.tel
Line Count: 82
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Retention: 0
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Type: TE
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